

REMARKS

This is intended as a full and complete response to the Office Action dated May 5, 2006, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on August 5, 2006. Claims 1, 2, 4-7, 14-21, and 24-30 have been examined. The Examiner rejected claims 1, 2, and 27-30 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Loh (U.S. 6,798,966) in view of Chang (U.S. 5,153,380). The Examiner rejected claims 6 and 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Loh in view of Chang and further in view of Shu (U.S. 4,567,318). The Examiner indicated that claims 14-21 and 24-26 are allowed. The Examiner objected to claims 4 and 5 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim.

Claim Objections

The Examiner objected to claim 5 due to informalities. Applicants have cancelled claim 5, thereby obviating the objection.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The Examiner rejected claim 1 as being obvious over Loh in view of Chang. In response, Applicants have amended claim 1.

As amended, claim 1 includes the limitation of a lid having a cylindrical-shaped slot extending around a perimeter of the lid. Loh does not disclose a lid with a cylindrical-shaped slot extending around a perimeter thereof. In contrast, Loh merely discloses a lid "4" having a plurality of holes "41" formed therein. The holes "41" which is referred to by the Examiner as slots, are used as screw holes that correspond to mating screw holes in the housing. (See Loh, col. 2, lines 38-43) Further, Chang merely discloses a lid without any slots and therefore fails to cure the deficiencies of Loh.

As the foregoing illustrates, the combination of Loh and Chang fails to teach or suggest all the limitations of claim 1. Therefore, the combination of Loh and Chang fails to render claim 1 obvious. Applicants therefore submit that claim 1 is in condition for allowance and respectfully request withdrawal of the § 103(a) rejection. Additionally, since claims 2, 27-30, and new claim 33 depend from claim 1, these claims are allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 1.

The Examiner rejected claims 6 and 7 as being obvious over Loh in view of Chang and further in view of Shu. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection. Claims 6 and 7 depend from claim 1. As set forth above, the combination of Loh and Chang fails to render claims 1 obvious. Shu fails to cure the deficiencies of the combination of Loh and Chang. This failure precludes the combination of Loh and Chang and Shu from rendering claims 6 and 7 obvious. For these reasons, Applicants submit that claims 6 and 7 are in condition for allowance and respectfully request withdrawal of the § 103(a) rejection.

Allowable Subject Matter

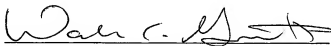
The Examiner indicated that claims 14-21 and 24-26 are allowed. Applicants appreciate allowance of these claims.

The Examiner objected to claims 4 and 5 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In response, Applicants have rewritten claims 4 and 5 as new claims 31 and 32, respectively. Therefore, Applicants believe that new claims 31 and 32 are in condition for allowance and respectfully request the allowance of these claims.

Conclusion

Having addressed all issues set out in the office action, Applicants respectfully submit that the case is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions, please contact the Applicants' undersigned representative at the number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,



Walter C. Grollitsch
Registration No. 48,678
PATTERSON & SHERIDAN, L.L.P.
3040 Post Oak Blvd. Suite 1500
Houston, TX 77056
Telephone: (713) 623-4844
Facsimile: (713) 623-4846
Attorney for Applicants